

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 4, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 9, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 72

Introduced by Assembly Member Dymally
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Portantino)

December 4, 2006

An act to amend Section 51221.4 of the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 72, as amended, Dymally. Curriculum: social science.

Under existing law, the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, is required to include instruction in social science. The required social science instruction is permitted to include instruction on World War II and the American role in that war. Statutory provisions encourage that instruction to include a component drawn from personal testimony of American soldiers who were involved in World War II and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront.

Statutory provisions also encourage the required instruction in social science to include instruction on the Vietnam War, including the “Secret War” in Laos and the role of Southeast Asians in that war. Those provisions encourage that instruction to include a component drawn from personal testimony of Southeast Asians who were involved in the Vietnam War and those who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. School districts are required to implement the instruction

in a manner that does not result in the imposition of new duties or programs.

This bill would encourage instruction in social science for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include instruction on World War II and the role of Filipinos in that war.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.

State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 51221.4 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:

3 51221.4. (a) The Legislature encourages instruction in the area
4 of social science, as required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section
5 51220, to include instruction on the Vietnam War including the
6 “Secret War” in Laos and the role of Southeast Asians in that war.
7 The Legislature encourages that this instruction include, but not
8 be limited to, a component drawn from personal testimony,
9 especially in the form of oral or video histories of Southeast Asians
10 who were involved in the Vietnam War and those men and women
11 who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. The oral
12 histories used as a part of the instruction regarding the role of
13 Southeast Asians in the Vietnam War and the “Secret War” in
14 Laos shall exemplify the personal sacrifice and courage of the
15 wide range of ordinary citizens who were called upon to participate
16 and provide intelligence for the United States. The oral histories
17 shall contain the views and comments of their subjects regarding
18 the reasons for their participation in the war. These oral histories
19 shall also solicit comments from their subjects regarding the
20 aftermath of the war and the immigration of Southeast Asians to
21 the United States.

22 (b) (1) The Legislature encourages the instruction required
23 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51220 to include instruction
24 on World War II and the role of Filipinos in that war consisting
25 of an accurate history of the contributions of the Filipino American
26 veterans who fought courageously in the United States Army for
27 freedom and democracy in World War II, under the leadership of
28 General Douglas MacArthur.

29 (2) The Legislature encourages ~~that~~ the instruction described
30 in paragraph (1) to include a component drawn from personal

1 testimony, especially in the form of oral or video histories of
2 Filipinos who were involved in World War II and those men and
3 women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. The
4 oral histories used as a part of the instruction regarding the role of
5 Filipinos in World War II are encouraged to do all of the following:

6 (A) Exemplify the personal sacrifice and courage of the wide
7 range of ordinary citizens who were called upon to participate and
8 to provide intelligence for the United States.

9 (B) Contain the views and comments of their subjects regarding
10 the reasons for their participation in the war.

11 (C) Solicit comments from their subjects regarding the aftermath
12 of the war and the immigration of Filipinos to the United States.

13 (c) This section shall be carried out in a manner that does not
14 result in any new duties or programs being imposed on the school
15 district. In that regard, the Legislature finds and declares that this
16 section does not mandate costs to local agencies or school districts,
17 and materials used to comply with this section shall be part of
18 normal curriculum materials purchased by school districts in their
19 normal course of business and purchasing cycles.